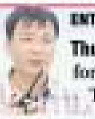
WORLD / A26

2 bombings in India leave 40 dead



ENTERTAINMENT / G1

Thumbs up for story-driven TV soaps

BUSINESS / B1

Government debt burden eases to P3.78T

NEWS / A22

AFP: We didn't violate rights of Jonas' mother

Top AFP officer smells new destabilization plot

By Christine O. Avendaño

Sacked colonel rues recall of air support

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Monday, August 27, 2007



POSTMORTEM OF JULY 10 CLASH

Cell phone dead spot doomed troops

By Christine O. Avendaño

48% pass nursing exams

GMA face-off with foes looms over Garci tapes

By Antonio Ocampo

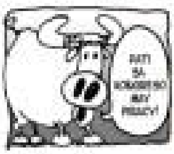
ANALYSIS



No results yet for those who retook Tests III, V

THE PHILIPPINES HAS more than 31,000 new nurses, including those who retook the nursing licensure examination to remove the stigma that they benefited from a leak of test questions last year.

China defends products, says 99% of exports passed quality standards



Way Kurat denounces piracy of his pet bill

Letters show Mother Teresa had doubted God's existence



MOTHER TERESA



Second FrontPage

Gov't increases security budget



Move seen as prelude to upping 'war' ante

THE GOVERNMENT has earmarked more funds for the state's security forces as it is apparently preparing for a bigger war.

Gov't, rebels to talk at local level

Palace finds penalties on Cabinet execs harsh

Fighting erupts on Basilan

SC orders ports agency to pay landowners P7B



New cervical cancer drug introduced

POP go Naia, Pag-Ibig for OFWs





High school seniors to boycott nat'l career test

By Jerry E. Esplanada

MILITANT HIGH SCHOOL seniors nationwide are planning to boycott Tuesday's National Career Assessment Examination or NCAE.

Student leaders affiliated with the League of Filipino Students and Anakbayan have condemned the NCAE as an "imposition of the capitalist International Monetary Fund, World Bank and World Trade Organization."

The NCAE is "not a solution to the low quality of education in the country," asserted at least 25 student leaders from various Metro Manila high schools who stooped Friday at the Department of Education main office in Pasig City.

High unemployment rate

The students brushed aside the DepEd claim "job mismatch" was to blame for the high unemployment rate among college graduates.

"The truth is jobs are simply not available," said a statement issued by student leaders from, among others, [illegible] High School, Quezon High School, Commonwealth High School, Batasan High School and San Francisco High School, all in Quezon City; University of the East High School and Caloocan City High School in Caloocan City and Manila High School.

Education Secretary Jesli A. Lapus urged the students to reconsider their plan.

Career guidance

Some 1.6 million senior students in more than 11,000 public and private high schools nationwide are set to take the test on Aug. 28, to be conducted by the National Education Testing and Research Center.

The DepEd has set aside more than P50 million for the NCAE, which aims to "assess the abilities of students in areas essential for post-secondary careers and provide students information that would help them make wise career decisions," Lapus told the Inquirer.

"Test results will be used primarily for career guidance. The NCAE is not mandatory for admission to tertiary schools ... Don't they want free guidance and career counseling?" he said.

Lapus expressed confidence the NCAE would be made a prerequisite for post-secondary studies with the passage of a law before 2010.

Aside from testing students' general scholastic abilities, the NCAE measures their aptitude in other domains, like occupational interests and technical-vocational as well as entrepreneurial skills.

Youth scholarships

The NCAE will also be administered to out-of-school youth who plan to apply for scholarships with the Commission on Higher Education or CHED.

Lapus pointed out "the results (of the last test given in January 2007) validate our decision to really stress our technical-vocational programs. This is part of our plan to equip our high school students with tech-voc skills that would empower them to find meaningful employment, whether or not they pursue a college education."

The DepEd's tech-voc curriculum is aligned with the training regulations of the government's Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda).

"Each examinee is given a certificate of rating. This will give the student an accurate measure of his or her potential for college, technical and vocational school or entrepreneurship," Lapus said.

31,275 pass board exams for nurses

The topnotchers

31,275 pass board exams for nurses





INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

SECURITY SERVICES



31,275 pass board exams for nurses

THE DAILY GOSPEL

31,275 pass board exams for nurses

B

C

Letters show Mother Teresa had doubted God's existence



Asean to finish free trade talks with partners by 2013

Concern over rapid shift

China factor

Asean Economic Community

China defends products, says 99% of exports passed quality standards

Toys and candy

Address books

Against protectionist measures

GMA face-off with foes looms over Garcillano tapes

Transcript

Tapes evidence of cheating

Explanation unconvincing

Extremely problematic

Waste of time

Way Kurat denounces piracy of his pet bill

Whatever happened?

"Lemon law" proposal

48% pass nursing exams

Oath-taking on Oct. 2

Topnotcher and top schools

Criminal charges

Top AFP officer smells new destabiliza

Unifying factor

Military campaign

Sacked colonel rues recall of air suppor

Wrong radio frequency?

Air cover for the Marines

Wrong judgment

ation plot

Erap lands

rt

Tip of the iceberg

Cell phone dead spot doomed troops

No coordination

MILF violation

'Better we get them first'

Dead spot for cell phones

Ceasefire after seven hours

Headless corpses

It is 'haram'

Who killed the imam?

OPINION

Do or die

EDITORIAL



Is PRCI board trying to hide something?

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Hello again

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

The continuing skirmishes

SOUNDING BOARD



Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

Winston Garcia and the sights of Paris

REVEILLE



Ramon J. Farolan

"To the family of my Beloved Mistah:

"Remember that our mistahs fought not only for our country but for the values of Christ. They will be remembered in our hearts forever..."

Making Asean more relevant to its people

COMMENTARY

Wilfrido V. Villacorta

Impotent reassurances

THE LONG VIEW



Manuel L. Quezon III

The INQUIRER is a member of the PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE

LETTERS

Media should play up other sports

China case a great shame for Americans

Air Force looking into Aug. 18 copter crash

A pathetic attempt to justify political slays

'Yarns and half-truths' about Huluga site

ASP's Huluga report available for public scrutiny

8 kids tortured in Sulu, says DSWD

[illegible]



[illegible]

Slain Marine wanted to be AFP chief of staff

[illegible]

Displaced Sulu families staying with kin, friends

[illegible]



[illegible]

Gov't says 18-degree slope properties can be titled

[illegible]



HIGHT MATTERS [illegible]

Climate change breathes life to Cordi's mini hydros

[illegible]

MRT 7

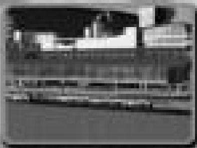
The answer to mass transportation need in Northern Metro Manila

The Missing Links: Now a Reality



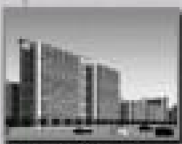
After three years of rigid and ... scrutiny by the government planners and pursuant to the Swiss challenge bidding, the proponent of the US$1.2 billion MRT 7 (Universal LRT Corp) are ready to implement the dream vision of new mass transit interconnectivity from EDSA-North Avenue to San Jose del Monte, Bulacan with the road connection to NLEX.

It will service commuters from the North to connect to MRT 3 and then to Line 1 through an North EDSA transit project (the connection between Line 1 and Line 3), clear EDSA of provincial buses and ease vehicle movements from Makati to and from the North. Above all, the project along with major real estate developers are creating a new town in San Jose del Monte with transportation connectivity thus contributing to the housing and decongestion problems of Metro Manila and creating a new income to the government to offset government exposure on the transportation project. MRT 7 project is one of the biggest infrastructure projects (attracting major investment to the country) does not have any direct government guarantee and assumes the Operation and Maintenance risk. Proponents are now ready to commence implementation of this important project.



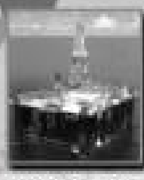
TRANSPORTATION

Not only providing reliable connection for Commonwealth, Fairview and Bulacan commuters, but uniquely addressing decongestion of EDSA by providing an alternative route for the provincial buses from the north.



HOUSING

Upgrade an affordable housing linked by transportation scheme to their work destinations



ENERGY

Study indicates project savings of $2.4 billion in forex over the concession period based on crude oil price of $50 per barrel



EMPLOYMENT

The project and the satellite township undertaking will create over 25,000 new jobs



ENVIRONMENT

MRT 7 will significantly reduce air pollution over the metropolis with its energy efficient engineering



INVESTMENTS

Opening opportunities in the project and its real estate development for $3 billion foreign and local investment pump priming the economy

Republika ng Pilipinas
Lalawigan ng Bulacan

Lungsod ng San Jose del Monte
Tanggapan ng Kalihim ng Sangguniang Panlungsod

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to express to Her Excellency Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines and Chairman of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board, the full support of the Local Government of San Jose del Monte City to the Project and its readiness to do all that is needful in order to help realize the undertaking at the soonest possible time.

31,275 pass board exams for nurses

31,275 pass board exams for nurses

News

Jonas ma's rights not violated, says AFP exec

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES provost marshal has told the Court of Appeals that Edita Burgos' right to due process and access to official records was not violated by his refusal to release a confidential report on the military's alleged loss of a license plate reportedly seen on the vehicle used by abductors of her son, Jonas.

[illegible]

Irrelevant report

[illegible]

Justice should prevail

[illegible]



EDITA Burgos leaves the Court of Appeals building after the adjournment of yet another hearing she hoped would lead to the recovery of her son, Jonas.

[illegible]

Unreasonable, oppressive

[illegible]





GUTIERREZ ties everything together during tree-planting.

'Tree-planting, God, nature and the self'

By Madonna T. Virola

Inquirer Southern Luzon

[illegible]

A plus METRO

Did you know

Another suspect in 7-year-old's kidnap-slay falls

Ang See asks public for info on victim's missing nanny

POLICEMEN IN MANILA YESterday arrested a second suspect in the kidnap and murder of a 7-year-old girl whose body was found inside a traveling bag in Manila Bay on Aug. 17.



WHAT'S IN A NAME!

Metro Citizen's call

Haven for illegals

Not meant as terminal

Bridge side dwellers

Unfinished business

Let 100,000 trees bloom: A tribute to Magsaysay



A PICTURE taken in 1955 shows the late President Ramon Magsaysay helping a child plant a tree.



MAGSAYSAY would often read under the shade of ... trees.



THE LATE President's son, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., talks about his father during the launching of the project.

Makati students back recycling

Lim orders cops to stop inspecting bars

MetroBriefs

Fire hits building

New Alay Lakad execs

Fear descends on Burma capital after crackdown



Greece declares emergency as fires kill 51



The WORLD

Terror bombings in India city kill 40

HYDERABAD, INDIA—INDIAN SECURITY forces launched a manhunt Sunday for those behind twin bombings in the southern city of Hyderabad that killed 40 people, with officials pinning the blame on Islamic militants.



Sikhs in US outraged by new turban search policy

Australia to ask migrants to commit to 'mateship'

WorldBriefs

Air strike kills dozens of Afghans, residents say

N. Korea building fence along border with China

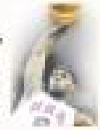
7 in custody after British boy shot dead

SPORTS



WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Pinoy shooters nail 2 golds /A29



■ NBA stars, Brazil stay unbeaten in Fiba tilt /A30

Breakthrough triumph

Murakami wins Asian Tour stop in Malaysia, pockets P2.18M

UE Warriors 3 victories shy of title berth / A28



MAIDEN WIN: Artemio Murakami

JOHOR BAHRU, MALAYSIA—ARTEMIO MURAKAMI OF THE PHILIPPINES [illegible]

[illegible]

Clear, solid victory for Indelible Ink

Warriors 3 wins shy of title berth



Suico keeps OPBF title by TKO; Jaca prevails

Boom Boom and the RP team: Learning from mistakes

BASE EYE

Recah Trinidad

SPORTSWATCH

FSA Forum tackles SBP project, Subic boat races

Xavier cage clinic Sept. 1

First Makati stagfest today

Matching of entries slated

St. Anthony spikers score

Harbour-RP five scuttles Jordan in Brunei debut

Pinoy shooters nail 2 golds



Untitled Li rules Malaysian chess; Nadera guns for 2nd

Ardina gains SAS Masters final round despite a 78

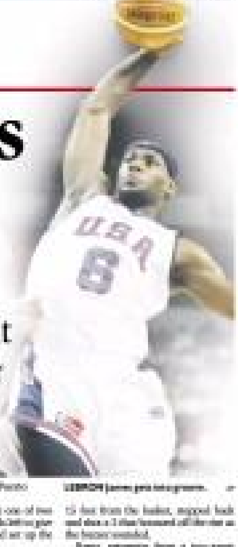


ARDINA

St. Francis, RTU stay unbeaten

SPORTS





US five continues to soar high

NBA stars, Brazil stay unbeaten in Fiba tilt

KOBE Bryant caps a fastbreak with a dunk.

LEBRON James gets set to power.

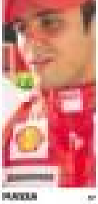
Desuyo, Delfin top Roxas Milo Marathon leg



RENIE Desuyo (right) and Nancy Jean Delfin show their trophies after winning the 21K qualifying race of the 31st National MILO Marathon yesterday in Roxas City. They advance to grand finals on Nov. 18.

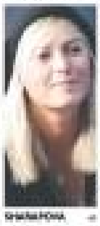
Ecuador bet rules 'slowest' track race

Massa takes pole



MASSA

Sharapova ready for title defense



SHARAPOVA

BUSINESS

Editor: Raul D. Marcelo • Assistant Editor: Camille S. Martinez

Government debt burden eases to ₱3.78T

Contingent liabilities hit P527B in June

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S TOTAL DEBT STOCK EASED BY about 5 percent to P3.78 trillion as of end-June from a year ago due to net repayments and the weakening of the dollar.

This means that each of the 88.7 million Filipinos (based on the government's projected population for 2007) has a P42,624 share in the debt burden.

The total debt burden also fell by one percent from P3.83 trillion as of end-May.

The debt stock, however, excludes contingent obligations such as potential liabilities from guarantees given to boost the creditworthiness of state-owned corporations. These contingent obligations amounted to P527 billion as of end-June.

If combined with contingent obligations, the government's debt stock would be higher at P4.31 trillion as of end-June.

Documents from the Department of Finance showed that of the actual debt stock of P3.78 trillion, about 44 percent consisted of foreign borrowings while 56 percent were sourced locally.

Direct loans and assumed bonds amounted to P679.00 billion while P1.1 trillion was in the form of domestic and foreign securities.

The government borrows from the local

GOVERNMENT B2

MARKETS
CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
₱46.79 = $1
As of Friday, Aug. 17, 2007

Stocks seen to rise

SHARE PRICES ARE EXPECTED TO PICK UP THIS WEEK DESPITE a shortened weekly session as global markets applaud the US Federal Reserve's move to calm volatile markets after its discount interest rate cut, brokers said.

Eagle Equities president Joseph Roxas said the Fed's move to calm credit markets by providing liquidity through its rate cut would spur a rebound in the local bourse as confidence returns to world markets.

STOCKS B3

IN THIS ISSUE

Bangko Sentral says impact of US credit crisis minimal

Financial system stable–Tetangco



TETANGCO

A high-yield public investment



Cielito F. Habito

Critical mass

Cream of the crop

Hall of fame

Calling all alumni

Government debt burden . . .

Stocks seen to rise


Introducing the all-new Mitsubishi
FUZION
SPORT WAGON
SUV ruggedness. Spaciousness of a van. Passenger car riding comfort.
FUZION GLX
FUZION GLS Sport
Test-drive one today!
Drive Inspired
MITSUBISHI MOTORS

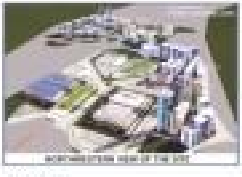
Oriental set to sell shares

Minerals firm hopes to raise at least ₱594M

Pacifica shifts back to mining

Maybank

P1.2-Billion MRT 7 project Endorsed





US firm plans to put up high-end tourist facility on Bicol island

Purchase deal for 99.41-hectare beachfront property signed



PAL upgrades online booking, ticketing systems

Romblon seen adopting SR Metals mining model

₱200-M emergency lending scheme for small banks eyed

Bukidnon gold mill to reopen

GOINGS-ON

SMB bags Monde awards

Salceda branch

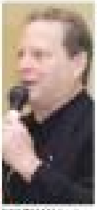
Rockwell goes to Ortigas

InfoTech

Use digital solutions, expert tells RP printers

By Charles E. Buban





WALDMAN (top) and Fuji's DocuColor 5252 (left).

DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR THE printing business.

This was the main message of printing and graphic industry consultant Harry Waldman, who attended a recent forum organized by Fuji Xerox Philippines.

"It's not a dying business; it's a changing business," Waldman reminded the country's top printers who attended the forum.

[illegible]

Putting a premium

[illegible]

Digital solutions

[illegible]

Wikipilipinas aims for top Wiki spot

By [illegible]

[illegible]

BUSINESS

Make way for Asean multinational firms

In Asia, today's SMEs may be tomorrow's global players

BOC still awaits reward for job well done



MORALES

BARANGAY ELECTRIFICATION

₱1.4B set aside to provide power in remote corners

Climate change threatens RP aquaculture



BUSINESS Monday
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino



Mobile marketing fights for ad spend

By [illegible]

IMAGINE RECEIVING A MESSAGE ON your mobile phone informing you of the latest promotional sale for equipment in your favorite sport.

Imagine browsing the Internet on your phone and seeing a banner ad telling you about the latest album by your favorite rock band.

Or imagine surfing the web and seeing ads informing you of the latest books by your favorite author as well as new titles of the same genre.

These are only some of the examples of what Internet and mobile advertising are capable of, and what traditional advertising media are not.

"The whole idea of interactive and mobile marketing is the feedback mechanism," said [illegible], who is the Asia-Pacific CEO of [illegible] Media, the media planning unit of [illegible] Worldwide. "With this system, you can actually see what the consumer is doing and what he is interested in."

The concept of interactive and mobile marketing is not new in the Philippines. Mobile phone firms like Globe Telecom Inc. and Smart Communications Inc. have been sending out advertisements to their subscribers via SMS and through their mobile phone websites for several years now.

Other firms like banks and real estate companies have also been active in advertising on the Internet through popular websites like www.inquirer.net (a unit of the Philippine Daily Inquirer).

Old vs new media

But a cursory glance up and down Edsa is enough to give anyone the impression that [illegible] billboards are the darlings of the local advertising business.

Given the amount companies spend on billboard advertising in recent years, they could very well be the kings of the hill. Not now.

According to both foreign and local experts, the advertising industry is set to undergo even more dramatic changes as new technology becomes available and affordable to more people.

For Mohan, however, "dramatic" does not mean that mobile media is on the verge of knocking traditional media from its perch.

"You will always have traditional channels like billboards and print [advertising]," he said. "But just imagine how much

[illegible]



Prospects bright for voice calls over Internet

Technology allows OFWs to cut phone bills

Optimistic

Challenge in RP



Big savings

Mobile marketing fights for ad spend

Mobile phone craze



INSULAR LIFE

Insular Life breaks new ground with the Zero% Deferred Payment Offer

Insular Life, the country's first and largest Filipino life insurance company continues to provide relevant solutions that meet the ever-changing needs of its target market, when it recently launched a new payment option, the Premium Deal-lite: Zero% Deferred Payment Offer.

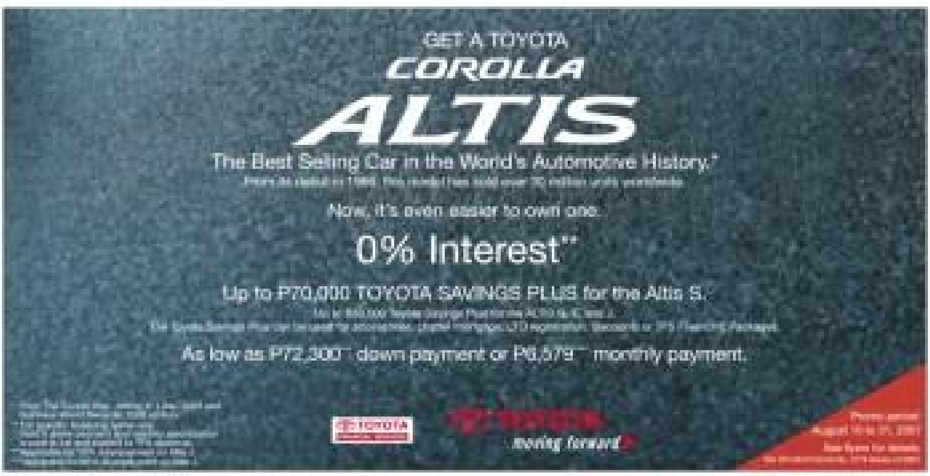
Starting August 1, Insular Life offers its policyholders a convenient payment option to make it easier to avail themselves of financial protection.

A first in the insurance industry, Insular Life's Premium Deal-lite: Zero% Deferred Payment Offer enables policyholders to pay their premiums in three (3) easy monthly installments at zero% interest. Under this scheme, initial and renewal premiums with a minimum transaction of P3,000 paid on or before the policy's due date can be spread in three months without interest.

The participating credit cards for this offer include HSBC (Visa, MasterCard), Equitable Card Network (Visa, Mastercard, JCB and American Express), Bankard (Visa, MasterCard and JCB) and BPI (BPI Express Credit, Visa, MasterCard).

For questions on the Premium Deal-lite: Zero% Deferred Payment Offer, please call Insular Life's Customer Value Management Department at (02) 771 1818 locals 1318 to 1320.





BUSINESS Monday

GOINGS-ON

PQPM sets meeting

A380 schedules first flight

Changemaker movement on

Breaking into wireless world

Start-up companies get a much needed push

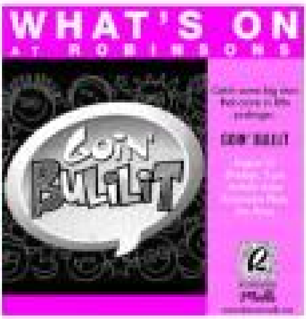
Benefits aboard

Helpful for investors, too

LIFESTYLE
Lifestyle Editor Lito B. Zulueta
MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS



Amazing Philippine Theater comes to Boracay



By Doctor R. Medio
Contributor

FOR SIX YEARS NOW, THE Amazing Philippine Theater (APT) has been entertaining Filipinos and foreigners alike with its grand productions straight out of the glittering and glamorous spectacles of Broadway and West End.

Whether at its original home at the Music [illegible] Film Center or at the [illegible] Resort in [illegible], Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, the company that takes pride in being the "biggest [illegible] show in Asia" has never failed to amaze its audience while providing employment opportunities for Filipino gay entertainers.

The APT recently opened an outlet in the country's premier tourist destination, Boracay. Along with industry partners—Philippine Tourism Authority, [illegible] and Paradise Garden Resort—APT gave journalists from Manila a taste of what was expected to become Boracay's premier nightly attraction.

While the Amazing Show on Boracay is a small-scale version of the one in Manila, it will still feature dance sequences, musical numbers, comedy skits and excerpts from Broadway and movie musicals such as "Grease" and "Dream Girls." The one-hour shows [illegible] daily 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Extensive auditions

APT began in August 2006. It opened a hiring office at Aloha Hotel on Roxas Boulevard. Auditions were held at the [illegible] of the Philippines Theater on Pedro Gil, Manila.

[illegible] William Lee, COO and director for sales and marketing, says APT owners

AMAZING/ [illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible] performs a "Grease" number

Amazing Philippine Theater comes to Boracay



BO GAMBINO and Cosplay in a "Dream Girls" performance

From page B1

and chair Jong Hyun Lee approached him with the idea of creating a theater company to provide a world-class show that would benefit both foreign and local tourists in the Philippines.

Lee said he was influenced by the success of transvestite shows in Thailand.

After talents had been pooled, APT began arrangements to rehabilitate the Manila Film Center.

A Korean restaurant, Shabu Shabu Grande, and a new lobby lounge bar and café are among the development projects being made in the Film Center.

Since opening in the Film Center, the Amazing Shows have attracted over 200,000 tourists, the majority being Koreans.

Other nationalities include Chinese, Japanese, American and local tourists who have cas-



ERIN Chang, Amazing president; Pinoy Yito, Seair marketing officer; Lee Jong Hyun, Amazing chair; Abby Vera Cruz, Gabrielle Cellon; and Casio Villarosa, Amazing vice president

ter access to the venue.

The APT holds annual Amazing Beauty Pageant every October, with the winner getting a contract with the theater company to go with the cash prize.

As Amazing Theater's popularity cannot be denied, more tourists are expected to flock to Boracay not just for its beautiful beach but also to witness the show.

With the APT opening a branch on the island, the Boracay landscape has truly changed as it has now become home to talented performing transgenders.

E-mail the author at [illegible]



MEDIA people on banana boat

Contemporary ballet pieces shine



By Rita Krystle R. Ruguera
Contributor

ONE COULD IMAGINE Marie Taglioni, one of the first ballerinas to go en pointe (on the tips of her toes), gasping in horror at the deviance displayed in Ballet Philippines' "Rizal Revisited/Double Takes" at the CCP Main Theater.

The first- and second-night audiences were witnesses to sword-in knees, sickled/flexed toes in pirouettes, chocolate pointe shoes, skin-colored tights, and the pairing of the Eraserheads' "Ang Huling El Bimbo" with a Pravović—among other irregularities.

But in as much as the company seems to enjoy breaking rules in traditional ballet, it will continue to enjoy it well. The triple-bill production of two party-over earned a full outcome of "bravos" and applause at curtain call.

With resident choreographer Alden Lugnasin's innately wonderful associate movements and writer/director Floy Quintos' incisive script and libretto, "Rizal Revisited" stirs the inner patriot in the hearts of those watching that night.

Difficult for those who know little about Rizal and his works, the creative bunch took the audience back in time—using the BIRT as some sort of time machine (or a 20th-century representation of Bapor Tabo)—to show highlights of the national hero's life and to surprise excerpts from his novels "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo."

Affecting renditions

The dancers donned gray [illegible] tops to emphasize a period piece, but they were all able to bring life into their drab-colored costumes through their affecting renditions and a flawless flurry of strong and smart arabesques, pointes and flexes.

Bing Quiogue was endearing as Rizal, impenetrable as Simoun, and rocking with class as [illegible] Ibarra. He was stunning in all his variations.



CYRIL Fallar turns on schoolboy charm to tell the story of Rizal (Bing Quiogue)

There was a certain kind of soulful sincerity in his expression that made the audience follow him as he leaped, crawled, and lunged across the stage.

Carissa Adea's Maria Clara was highly flexible, light, and a convincing marionette, so controlled in her movements in a scene with the friars. As Salome with well-articulated feet in the controversial Kabanata X, she was as passionate as keen Rosaline Vodos's vocals and earthy Elias, both careening across the stage sedately.

Sibling Candice Adea, meanwhile, was mesmerizing as Sisa. Reeling across the floor, she maddeningly dragged her hopeful rag dolls as imaginary Crispin and Basilio, with Tiffany [illegible] Mangubdubun's pompous Doña Consolacion clicking at her heels.

Cyril Fallar turned on his schoolboy charm as the narrator-cum-student examining for an exam about Rizal and was able to hold his ground well against a more seasoned Quiogue in their mother-pupil scene.

Rhea Dumdum, Mikaela Mascardian, Kayla Isidro and Jeanne Cabrega were the ultimate alpha-females as the women of Malolos, whom Rizal commended in a letter for setting up a



GUEST artist Bonnie Pichardo in "Double Takes"



ADEA with rival nuns Mikaela Mascardian and Rhea Dumdum



PICKARD as Josephine, Rizal's "Paramour"



CARMEN as Ibarra and Carissa Adea as Clara on a high

school despite the opposition of the Spanish establishment.

A few other notable scenes include "Mi Último Adiós," where only the silhouettes of women sensually changing into their street clothes were visible behind a big wide cloth of white; and the Mad Nuns scene where bags of trash change into the stage moving long, pompom-like tree stems which, while matching very Filipinesque, made them look over rustic.

Stuffed cuffles were heard during the finale, the scene of Rizal's execution at Bagumbayan, as Fallar recited the last few lines of "El Fili" while huge images of Rizal and his works were simultaneously flashed in the background.

Classy

Showing true versatility, the same lead dancers and corps readily shifted from modern ballet to the almost seamless neo-classical "Double Takes" by artistic director Rose Tzemine and guest choreographer Jeffrey Ezpejo.

Various compositions by Antonio Vivaldi resounded in the vast almost-full theater, transporting the audience into the Baroque era—complete with a glimpse of Baroque painting—as the dancers fluttered and glided.

The dreamy sequence was [illegible].

Inspired by a piece created by Gerrland Canado of Karlsruhe Ballet in Germany, Tzemine and Espejo were successful in melding two separate choreographies per number, a feat so complex that even two pairs of eyes were not enough to catch each dreamy and sizzling grand jeté, fouetté, chaîné, and tours en air.

Guest artist Bonnie Pickard did well as Rizal's dutch sweetheart, Josephine Bracken. Although one wonders if she understood the lyrics of "El Bimbo" in the pas de deux with Quiogue. She also shone in "Double Takes"—her lyrical movements flowing as if she were in water.

The principal dancer of Suzanne Farrell Ballet in Washington DC stood out not only because of her stark coloring and towering height, but also because of her visually distracting clean lines.

No one in BP is tall enough for her, but she helped her Filipino partners, Quiogue and Mary Angel Gabriel, disguise the lack well.

Minor glitches in some costume fittings, light and production design are not drawbacks in "Rizal Revisited/Double Takes" but no doubt became an inspiration for the making of more contemporary ballets.

Ballet Philippines continues its 38th season with "Pa-ningkang Handog: Snow White" in December and "Lady Host" in February and March.

Art and music explosion

THE THIRD BACKROOM Sessions Arts & Music Festival & Trade Fair, held recently at SM Megamall's Megatrade Hall, assembled rock bands, classical dancers, ethnic musicians, jazz artists, painters, reggae ensembles and acoustic singers, accompanied by audio-visual wizardry, in "showcase talent, creative expression and products that appeal to a broad audience because of the universal reach of music and the arts," said project director Jay Yulde.

Among the featured bands were The Dawn, Philippines, Kjwan, Rapsid, Sinosikos, Radioactive Sago, Returning Fears, [illegible], Ugaw Ugnaw, Shrynk, Pepsi Quaymuir, Nescerrus, Greyhounds, Coffee-break Island, The Chongkeys, Rabid, Makatha, Kice & G3, Sickness, Marilla, Kingale, Kisi, Corale Love, Check, Maliga, Imsolids, Imbu1, Natalie, Boots, On Cade, Blue Rab, The Late Isabel, Soler, Gloss 9, Bakaphori, Dreiko Baleriabano, Brain Connection and Quader.

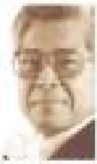
Solo artists who elevated their voices were Pinoy rock icon Joey "Pepe" Smith, acoustic musician Noel Cabangon, band mates Alien Balte, Kadiy Tuazon, Mike Syoke, folktrue and musician-photographer Wawi Navarroza.

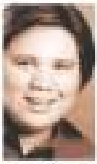
On the dance scene, the award-winning Redlil Cruz School of Ballet, the highly acclaimed Silyan Ballera Dance Forum and Teatro Flamenco wowed the audience with their classy movements.

The Art Association of the Philippines, Saturday Group, Printmakers Association of the Philippines, UP Artists Circle, Miriam College, Museo Pambata, the Metropolitan Theater and the Art Angel Workshops of GMA Network also participated.



ROCK icon Pepe Smith

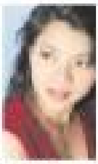

OSCAR Yatco

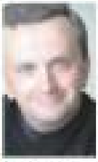

ANDREW Fernando

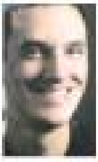

MARK Anthony Carpio

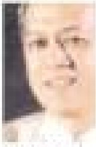

COKE Bolipata




RACHELLE Gerodias


DAVID [illegible]


ROLF Hind


FERNANDO Josef

Valedictory season for PPO conductor

By [illegible]
Contributor

AFTER FOUR YEARS IN THE land of his parents, Eugene Castillo, US-born principal conductor and music director of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO), will bow out of the Philippine musical scene with the PPO's 24th concert season.

The monthly concerts at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, which have featured an eclectic mélange of well known as well as unfamiliar modern works, will start Sept. 7 and end April 11, 2008.

In a recent press conference at Traders' Hotel in front of the CCP, Castillo paid tribute to Filipino musicians and the Filipino character in general.


EUGENE Castillo

"There is a plurality to the orchestra (PPO) and to Filipino culture, which is very rich and diverse. We have a very diverse audience and public; this is part of Filipino blood. And this is a very diverse orchestra, it speaks volumes when they can play (Charles) Ives and [illegible] Brahms."

Filipino culture, he said, "is flexible, multifaceted and full of variety. And I will miss it very much. The diversity of the Philippines is the richest in Southeast Asia."

As for Filipino composers today, "they are really and differently trained. There is no one word to describe the music of living Filipino composers. They are all inspired by different influences."

His years with the PPO, Castillo (based in California) said, were "like an amusement park, full of excitement and rides (activities) all the way."

The PPO's 2007-2008 season is, as expected, balanced and judiciously selected.

Performing artists include soprano Rachelle Gerodias, actor Monching Josef, violinists Alfonso "Coke" Bolipata and Gina Medina, pianist Rolf Hind, tenor Nolyn Cabahug, baritone Andrew Fernando, soprano Christiana de Ocampo, guitarist [illegible] "Butch" [illegible], the Philippine Madrigal Singers, and combined choirs and soloists from the University of Santo Tomas Conservatory of Music.

Along with such favorites as Handel's "Messiah" (at the Folk Arts Theater), Ravel's Concerto for the Left Hand, Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet," we have Lowell Liebermann's "Loss of Breath," John Biggs' "[illegible] of Wind for String Orchestra," [illegible] "Love's Labour Lost" Suite, Corigliano's "Promenade Overture," and Britten's mighty War Requiem.

Liebermann's "Loss of Breath" is an interpretation of an Edgar Allan Poe short story which begins with a man verbally and violently abusing his wife.

Another novelty is Corigliano's Promenade Overture, in which the musicians march in one by one playing Haydn's Farewell Symphony backward. The last musician plays the last notes.

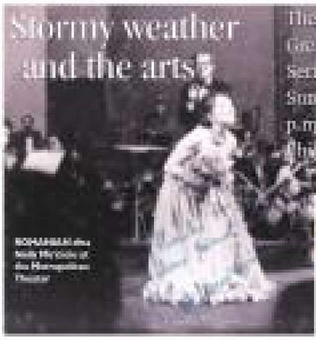
Something to look forward to is "Philippine Zarzuelas and Operas," to be conducted Feb. 8 (during National Arts Month) by PPO associate Oscar Yatco.

The season ends April 11 with Britten's War Requiem, which combines the Mass for the Dead with the poetry of Wilfred Owen, an English soldier killed in World War I: "My subject is War, and the pity of War. The poetry is the pity.... All a poet can do today is warn."

The concert coincides, fittingly, with the Fall of Bataan.

Stormy weather and the arts

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor



ROMANIAN diva Nelly Miricioiu at the Metropolitan Theater

FOR THE FIRST time in my concert-organizing years, I postponed a concert due to the incessant rains of the last three weeks.

Pianist Mary Anne Espina was wary of the floods on the way to the rehearsal venue, and I couldn't get a cab from the usual street corner now suddenly knee-deep in floodwater. Then a thought just occurred to me: Would concertgoers actually brave the floods to listen to operatic arias and Broadway favorites?

Baritone Noel Azcona's dramatic rendition of an aria from "Faust" was, I thought, worth a wade through the floods. But I wouldn't want concertgoers to do an act of madness to watch a concert.

So when the rains didn't stop on the eve of the concert (Aug. 17) and it had been raining for the last five days, we thought it was better to move the concert a week later.

Then we found out the venue was not available on the new date, and soprano Rachelle Gerodias had an engagement in Hong Kong. I didn't want last-minute substitutes, so we settled for the date that had the theater and the artists equally free.

Unexpected debut

That's how the new date of the Great Performances Series came to be, which is now Sunday, Sept. 2, 8 p.m. Again, it's no longer Aug. 25 as earlier announced, still at Philamlife Theater along UN Avenue in Ermita, Manila.

Twenty-three years ago, in 1984, I did have an unexpected debut as impresario in the special engagement of Romanian diva Nelly Miricioiu at the Metropolitan Theater with the then—and still is—cash-strapped Manila Symphony Orchestra (MSO) under the baton of Sergio Esmilla Jr.

That concert ended in an electrifying standing ovation with two encore items and the audience cheering: [illegible] (the first Filipina to sing Madama Butterfly in Italy) and [illegible] Santiago (the country's first Lucia di Lammermoor).


ILYA Rashkovsky with pianist Mary Anne Espina

A few months after this concert, most of the then veteran members of the MSO would join the Manila Chamber Orchestra (MCO) based at the PCIBank, which, 10 years later, would metamorphose into the MSO II based at St. Scholastica's College.

In between two music-making decades, the PPO held fort as the country's premiere orchestra. At one point, the Cebu Philharmonic Orchestra—the first orchestra outside Metro Manila, composed mostly of talented Visayan musicians, tutors and later renamed Peace Philharmonic—made a grand debut in Cebu and wowed audiences in selected outreach destinations in the country.

When the San Miguel Philharmonic came to be and dangled higher salaries for musicians, it was able to attract the best instrumentalists from the PPO, the MSO, the MCO, the Peace Philharmonic.

The San Miguel Orchestra is now gone. The MSO II barely manages to survive by scrimping monthly salaries for its members. The MSO has ceased to be an orchestra but is just the name of an active foundation still supporting the arts.

Hard times

Why am I suddenly recalling the rise and fall of many Philippine orchestras?

Because it illustrates the common expression that good (but unfunded) things never last.

When financial support stops, ticket sales dwindle and corporate sponsorships get scarce, orchestras (and impresarios) will end with the hard times. In the end, you realize good reviews will not pay for concert programs. [illegible] though they are a great balm to the spirit. And good intentions, without the support of art patrons and sponsors, will not pay for artists' air tickets and orchestra fees.

At the end of the day, you realize you have paid an unbelievable price to keep classical music alive.

And so as the rains came and memories of fading orchestras flashed in my mind, I thought it was time to fade out and stay away from financially distressing projects.


ALVARO Pierri, classical guitarist

On this note, I'd like to announce that the Sept. 2 concert of Azcona with Gerodias and Espina, the Dec. 4 Manila debut of world-acclaimed classical guitarist Alvaro Pierri, and the much-awaited return engagement of Russian pianist Ilya Rashkovsky, will be my last concert endeavors.

The tickets you buy for these last three concerts will help me face the music, so to speak, and in the process sustain the quarterly Music Notes Magazine (the only magazine devoted to classical music in the country), which has been existing without ad revenues in the last 15 years.

With this, my curtain call, I'd like to find new meaning in [illegible] rendition of "Stormy Weather," and how the arts come and go with it.

Alvaro Pierri coming

The Chopin Society of Hong Kong, under its executive director [illegible], has confirmed the Manila debut of Pierri at Philamlife Theater on Dec. 4 and the much-awaited return engagement of Rashkovsky on Dec. 8.

Pierri's program: "Grande Sonata" by Niccolo Paganini, "Preludio y [illegible]" by Miguel Llobet, "Sonatina" by Federico Moreno Torroba, "Five Bagatelles" by William Walton, Sonata No. 3 by Manuel Ponce and Sonata for Guitar Op. 47 by Alberto Ginastera.

Rashkovsky will have an entirely new program composed for dance, namely Chopin's Seven Waltzes, Op. 34, 64, 69 and No. 14; Scriabin's Valse, Op. 38 A Flat Major; Ravel's "La Valse" and "Valses Nobles et Sentimentales"; and Liszt's Soirees de Vienne: Valse-Caprice No. 6 and Mephisto Waltz No. 1.

Tickets ordered for the above concerts on or before Sept. 7 will have a 20-percent discount and free delivery. Call [illegible] or [illegible]; e-mail [illegible]@yahoo.com.

UE stages original Filipino pop musical-play

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE East Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA), in cooperation with the UE Alumni Association Inc. and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, stages the first full-length presentation of "Quiapo," an original Filipino pop musical-play by Dennis Marasigan and Jesse Lucas, in a series of shows in September at the UE Theater as part of UE's 61st Foundation Anniversary cultural activities.

"Quiapo" depicts the journey of a young provinciano who, in pursuit of his dreams, comes to Manila to study in one of the universities along U-Belt and falls in love with the very heart of the city that is Quiapo.

A play-through preview of "Quiapo" was enthusiastically received at the 2004 Third National Theater Festival.

Performances and target audiences are as follows: Sept. 12, UE Manila Community; Sept. 13, UE Caloocan and UERMMMC Community; Sept. 14, gala night; and Sept. 17-21, high school students from select schools in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Guest artists from the mainstream entertainment industry will appear in "Quiapo" alongside UE talents. They include [illegible], Ronald David, [illegible] and [illegible]. Chad Palacio and [illegible], both members of the internationally acclaimed UE Chorale, will alternate with the guest artists in the lead role of [illegible], while [illegible] for the role of [illegible].

Completing the cast are members of the UE Drama Company, the UE Chorale and the UE Silanganan Dance Troupe.

Stage director is UE Drama director Frederick Castro. Musical direction is by Jesse Lucas, choreography by [illegible], script by [illegible], production design by [illegible], lights and technical design by [illegible].


CAST of "Quiapo"

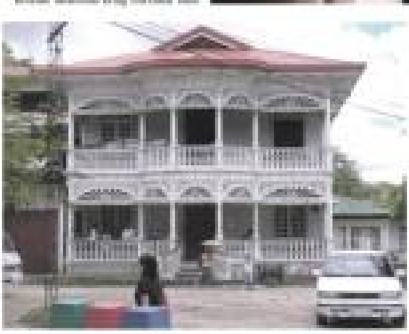
PRIDE OF PLACE
Augusto Villalón

Building green

> Environmental sustainability is the clarion call of the 21st century







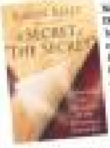
LIFESTYLE

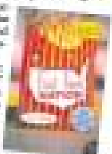
28th Manila Int'l Book Fair opens this week

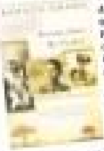


Top nonfiction titles





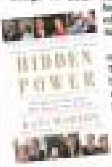


















2007 best watercolorists









Pancho Piano's Marian paintings at Heritage

'If a Filipino Writer Reads Don Quijote' to be launched

THE INSTITUTO CERVANTES, led by its director, Jose Rodriguez, will launch "If a Filipino Writer Reads Don Quixote," on Aug. 30, 5 p.m., at the Function Room A of the World Trade Center, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay.

The launching is in connection with the 28th Manila International Book Fair.

Co-published with the University of Santo Tomas Publishing House, the book is a collection of essays by National Artist F. Sionil Jose, Alfred Yuson and Vicente Groyon, on the novel by Miguel de Cervantes.

The essays were originally written and presented in 2005 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the novel, which is universally acclaimed as the first and the greatest novel of all time.

The book has an introduction by Inquirer Arts editor Lito B. Zulueta.

Call 5260-402-05.



Heritage books available

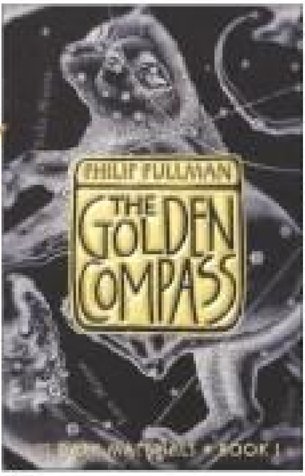
TRADEWINDS BOOKS, A CULTURAL bookshop featuring the art, history, literature and culture of the Philippines, Asia and the Pacific, will be participating in the 28th Manila International Book Fair, at the World Trade Center from Aug. 29-Sept. 2.

Tradewinds Books will be featuring the latest books by well-known Filipino authors such as "A Hero Worth Living For" by Alice Colet Villadolid, "The Donor Heritage" by Chit de la Torre, "In My Grandfather's Knee" by Cynthia Guiguio Wales.

Tradewinds Books will also be showing the latest publications of the Juan D. Nepomuceno Center for Kapampangan Studies of the Holy Angel University in Angeles City such as "Singsing," the center's quarterly magazine, and the recently launched English translation of "Vocabulario de Pampango," a 1732 Kapampangan dictionary by Fray Diego Bergaño, and other scholarly works.

Tradewinds Books is at 2/F, of Silahis Center, 744 General Luna, Intramuros, Manila; open daily, including holidays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 5272111 or e-mail raposa@silahis.com.

Don't be afraid of the 'Dark'



Philip Pullman's provocative 'His Dark Materials' trilogy is a worthy discovery for readers suffering from 'Harry Potter' withdrawal

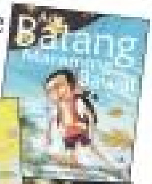


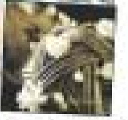
Charming and accessible

Overloaded

More UST books to be launched during fair













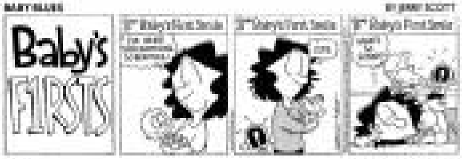
GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN



BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

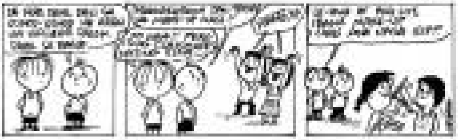


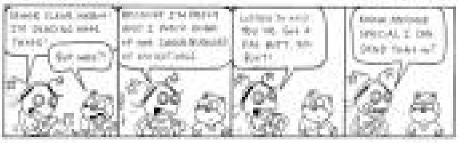
PUGAD BABOY



MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL





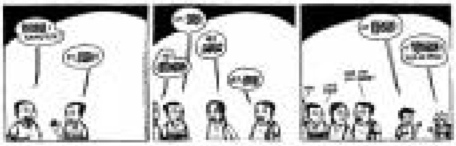


DIVINE COMEDY

COMMUNION BLUES

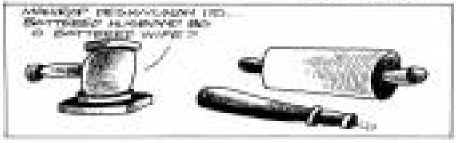


KIKO MACHINE

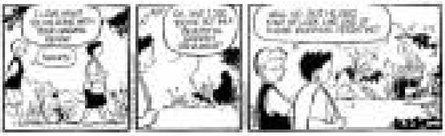




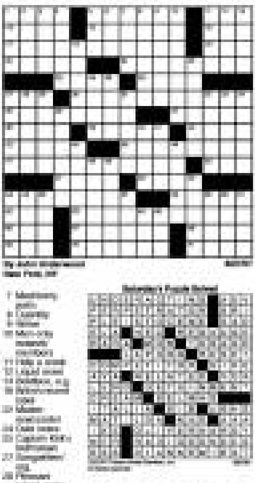
TULDOK



BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

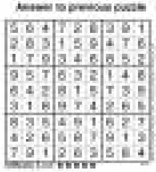
Conceptis Sudoku

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2								1
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Difficulty Level ★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle



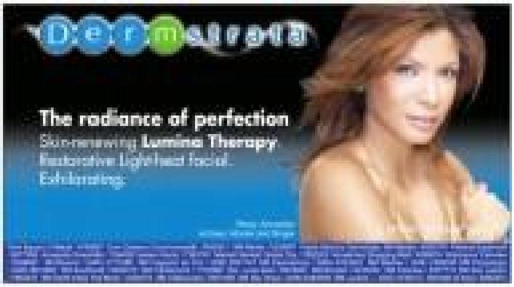
LIFESTYLE

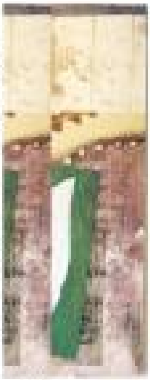


Gerardo Tan repeats himself

'Flatbed Stories' presents a rich discourse on appearance and surface. It's art that should be taken at face value







"Stories that are stories"

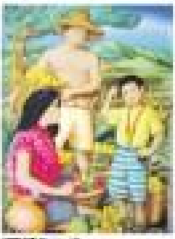






New works by Mike Austria

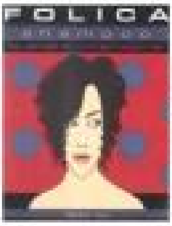


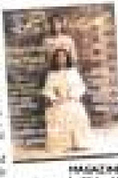




Pioneering digital arts school





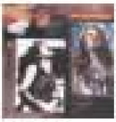




Gerardo Tan repeats himself



VISUAL ARTS

















"NUDE" 2

Hermes Alegre's abstracts tame nature's wrath

[illegible]



"MORE Than a Woman" 2

[illegible]



"MORE Than a Woman" 1





Nostalgia in metal



By Constantino C. Tejero

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor: Dennis G. Velardo

INSIDE



Yo, meet the boys of 'Tribu'–if you dare! Take Five F4

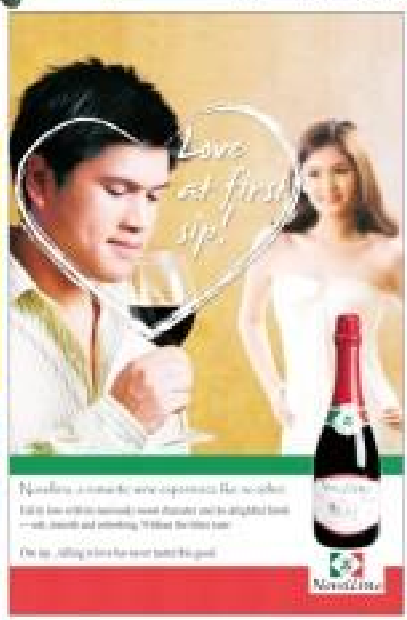


Sheilbert Magat, 21

Ronald Aguilos, 20







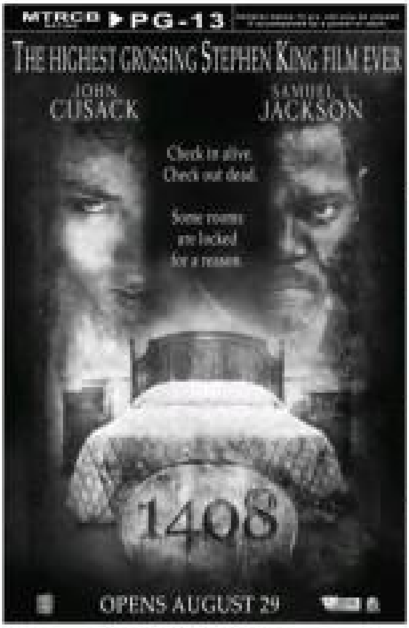


JOB Market

Topel Lee's one-two cinematic punch

VIEWFINDER





AT THE CINEMAS

GLORIETTA 1	1 EVAN ALMIGHTY	2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	3 DISTURBIA	4 A LOVE STORY
GLORIETTA 4	1 DISTURBIA	2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	3 EVAN ALMIGHTY	
	4 RISE	5 SURF'S UP	6 A LOVE STORY	7 HAIRSPRAY
GREENBELT 1	1 A LOVE STORY	2 EVAN ALMIGHTY		
GREENBELT 3	1 HAIRSPRAY	2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM		
	3 DISTURBIA	4 RUSH HOUR 3	5 EVAN ALMIGHTY	
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 A LOVE STORY	2 HAIRSPRAY		
	3 EVAN ALMIGHTY	4 DISTURBIA	5 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 EVAN ALMIGHTY	2 [illegible]	3 A LOVE STORY	4 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
MARKET! MARKET!	1 A LOVE STORY	2 HAIRSPRAY		
	3 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	4 EVAN ALMIGHTY	5 DISTURBIA	
TRINOMA	1 A LOVE STORY	2 SURF'S UP	3 DISTURBIA	4 HAIRSPRAY
	5 RUSH HOUR 3	6 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	7 EVAN ALMIGHTY	

AT THE MALLS

Glorietta · Greenbelt · Alabang Town Center · Ayala Center Cebu · Market! Market! · Cinemalls · Ayala Museum · TriNoma

TriNoma — Luxury Car Exhibits, August 20 to 31, 2007 at the Activity Center



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ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

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Won Best Film in the last Cinemalaya Film Competition

ERMITA

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PIONEER

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4 DISTURBIA Sneak Preview

STA. ROSA

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2 RUSH HOUR 3
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4 A LOVE STORY

LIPA

1 OSS 117
2 A LOVE STORY
3 LICENSE to WED
4 THREE

DASMARIÑAS

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY

IMUS

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 A LOVE STORY

ANGELES

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2 A LOVE STORY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 RUSH HOUR 3

TARLAC

1 A LOVE STORY
2 THE SIMPSONS
3 LICENSE to WED

STARMILLS

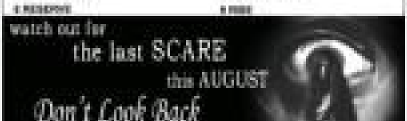
1 THREE
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
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4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 SURF'S UP
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BACOLOD

1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
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ILOILO

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5 BLIND DATING
6 RISE



SM Cinema movietime SHOWTIME

Your life as a movie

SPORTSTiME



METRO MANILA

movietime



NOW SHOWING

CEBU

DAVAO

ENTERTAINMENT

Do you know where your children are?

Meet the boys of 'Tribu'



"CINEMA COULD BE used as a tool for conflict resolution," declares Jim Libiran, director of the award-winning film "Tribu," which chronicles the activities of real-life gangsters in Tondo, Manila.

[illegible]



Billy Cruz, 20



Lloyd Lahaccrida, 21

Just the reality of inner-city life

[illegible]

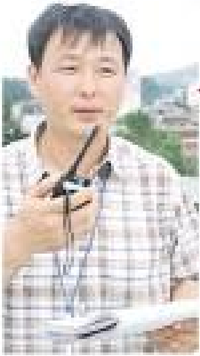
Defense

[illegible]

Attractive results

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ENTERTAINMENT



Thumbs up for story-driven TV soaps

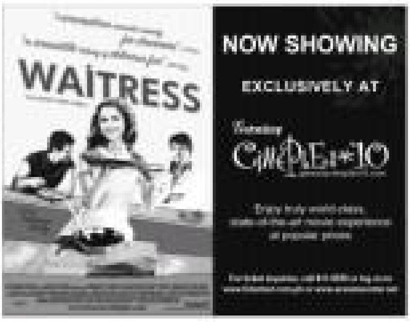
Korean director Lee Hyung Min says viewers are looking for new drama

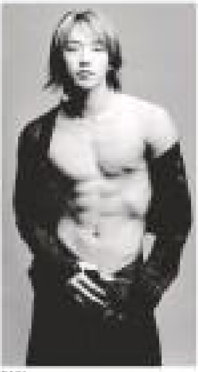
THE QUOTATION ON HIS calling card says it all: "It's a good story, man!"

Fats Domino receives replicas of 20 awards lost in Katrina

[illegible]

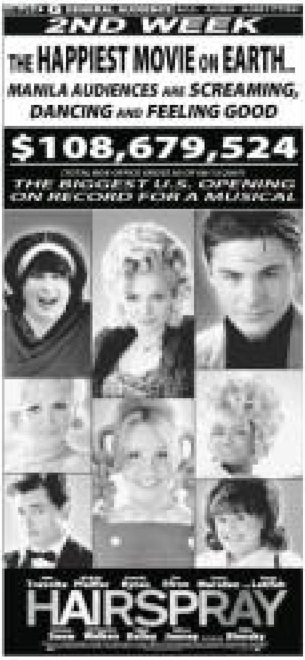


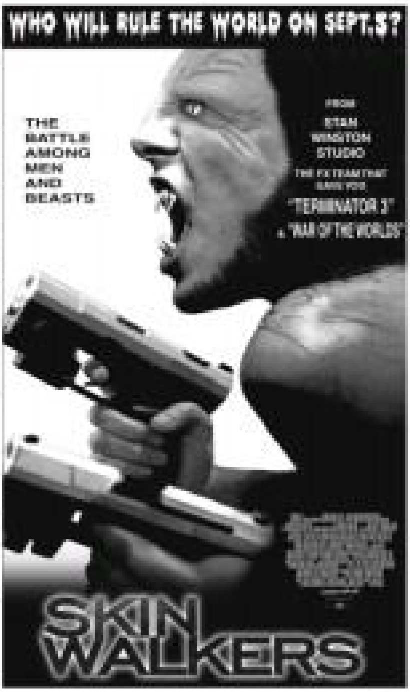


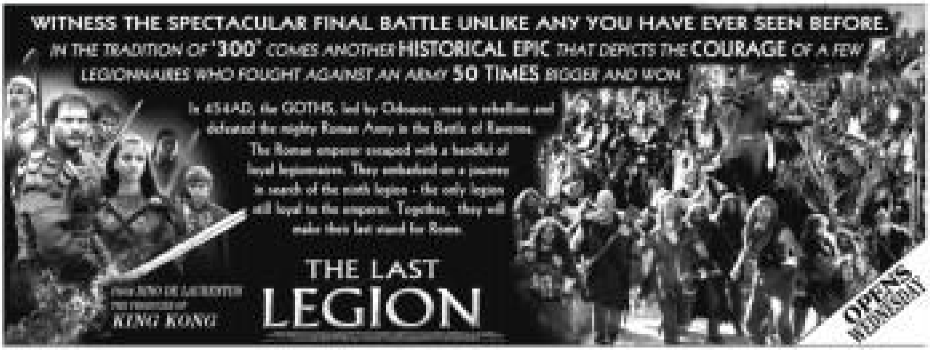

RAIN

Thumbs up for story-driven …

[illegible]









Vic Silayan, third from left, with Rosa Rosal, second from left, in "Badjao," 1957

A tribute to Vic Silayan

Cinema One screens the late great actor's best movies

PINOY MOVIE CABLE CHANNEL CINEMA One airs movies starring the late great actor Vic Silayan for five days starting today at 1 p.m.

'Huk'

—To be screened today is "Huk sa Bagong Pamumuhay" (1953), directed by Lamberto Avellana, where Silayan starred with Jose Padilla Jr., Celia Flor, Leroy Salvador, Vic Mortas and Nena Aguirre.

The movie is about dissidents who surrender to the government after World War II, and the new life that awaits them in Mindanao.

'Badjao'

—Scheduled for tomorrow is "Badjao," another Avellana movie. Silayan's co-stars here were Rosa Rosal, Tony Santos, Leroy Salvador, Joseph de Cordova, Oscar Keesee, Pedro Faustino, Arsenio Mortas, Tony Dantes and Gerry Sokolich.

The Badjao are sea nomads of southern Mindanao who live in boats or houses built on stilts above coastal waters.

'Malvarosa'

—Showing on Aug. 29 is "Malvarosa" (1958) directed by Gregorio Fernandez. Aside from Silayan, the lead actors were Charito Solis, Leroy Salvador, Carlos Padilla Jr., Eddie Rodriguez, Rebecca del Rio, Lincoln Rosas, Vic Diaz, Rey Ruiz, Johnny Reyes, Priscilla Ramirez, Johnny Legarda, Romeo Chinois and Lani Cabeda.

'Kisapmata'

—Aug. 30, "Kisapmata" (1981), directed by Mike De Leon. The other main actors were Charito Solis, Charo Santos and Jay Ilagan. Here, Silayan plays a man who has an incestuous relationship with his daughter.

'Anak Dalita'

—Aug. 31, "Anak Dalita," directed by Lamberto Avellana. Silayan starred here with Tony Santos Sr. and Rosa Rosal.

Stage training

Silayan was born Jan. 31, 1929 and died on Aug. 30, 1987.

His training in acting began in summer de Manila's theater productions. He became a radio announcer and talent, and later received stage acting in productions of the [illegible] of Greater Philippines.

Avellana was his first mentor in the movies.

On the big screen, he played heroes and anti-heroes with equal success.

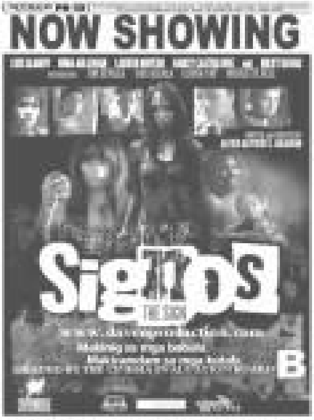
He never considered himself a "star," merely "a working actor."

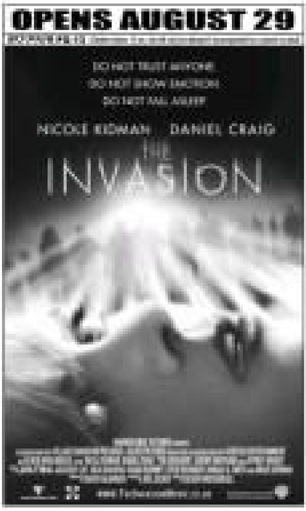
His every performance is a lesson in fine acting that younger actors could certainly learn from.



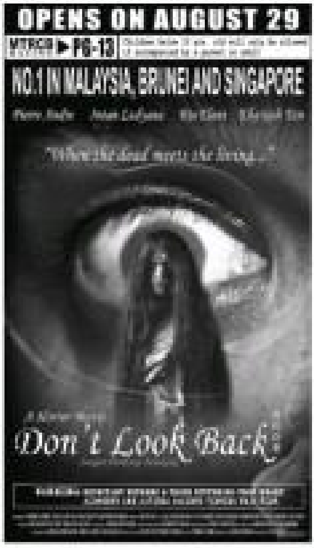














ENTERTAINMENT



Years later, 'Firefly' still shines brightly

REVIEW

Disparity

Unpredictable

The indie roundtable talks



David Hukom, Ignite Media: You can't drop a project just because the budget ran out





Follow-up

Empowerment





LIGHT AND SHADOW

Nothing scary about this

REVIEW

Impossible

Wanted

